



SISTER CITIES

HOST FAMILY RESPONSIBILITIES

The City of Detroit Sister Cities Program is seeking families who reside in Detroit to host a student or chaperone member of the 2010 Detroit-Toyota Student Exchange Delegation that will visit Detroit for two weeks – July 21 to August 5, 2010. Although preference is given to Detroit families, the City will consider families outside Detroit as host families.

The group will include eight high school students between the ages of 14 and 18 and two chaperones. All members usually have fairly good skills in the English language. The student or chaperone would live with a Detroit family to experience life in our city. The ideal candidates are families with teenage children. The City places a Japanese teenager with a family that has a child of the same sex and close to the same age. In addition, chaperones can be placed with families that may or may not have children. As a part of the selection process, the City will conduct background checks.

The City of Detroit will sponsor various activities during the group's visit, including trips to the Museum of African American History, Detroit Institute of Arts, Comerica Park, Belle Isle and Niagara Falls, and a number of hands-on activities. These group activities are scheduled for weekdays, leaving the weekends open for activities with host families. Adults or youngsters from Detroit host families are welcome to attend some of these City-sponsored field trips.

The host family will be responsible for providing lodging, meals (when the member is not involved with City-sponsored activities), and transportation to and from the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center (formerly the City-County Building) for daily activities.

The relationship between Detroit, Michigan and Toyota City, Japan began in 1960, and this year marks the 50th anniversary of that relationship. The student exchange program began in 1964 with students from Detroit traveling to Toyota City, Japan. Detroit students visit Toyota one year, while students from Toyota visit Detroit the following year. In addition, students from families who serve as hosts are given special consideration when Detroit students are selected to go to Toyota City, Japan in 2011.

The Detroit Sister Cities Program has proven to be a very rewarding and unforgettable experience for participants. **For additional information, please contact Rose Love at (313) 224-3757.**